

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 and 8 remain in the application with claims 1-4 having been amended hereby and claims 5-7 having been cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the objection to the drawings.

Submitted herewith is a replacement sheet for Fig. 8 in which the legend "Prior Art" has been added.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 1-5, 7, and 8 under 35 USC 102(b), as being anticipated by Kuriso.

Kuriso provides a headphone apparatus that is intended to change the output of the signal processing circuit based upon a detected rotation of the head of the user wearing the headphones. A time difference and level difference are controlled based upon such a detected headphone rotation.

The present invention is intended to provide an improved headphone signal processing apparatus in which rather than any head rotation being detected the actual characteristics of the headphone are employed in a correcting filter circuit in the left and right channels. As described in the present specification in the paragraph bridging pages 15 and 16, when a transfer characteristic of the left channel from a driver in

the headphone device attached to the listener is a certain transfer characteristic, an inverse characteristic of that transfer characteristic is superposed as impulse response data on a time area in the correcting filter for the left channel and, similarly, the inverse characteristic of the transfer characteristic of the right channel is superimposed as impulse response data on the time area in the filter comprising the right correcting filter.

This feature of the present invention has been included in amended claim 1 and, in that regard, it is respectfully submitted that Kuriso is completely silent concerning this type of characteristic used to control a correcting filter, as taught by the present invention and as recited in the amended claims.

The cancellation of claim 6 renders moot the rejection thereof under 35 USC 103.

Accordingly, by reason of the amendments made to the claims hereby, as well as the above remarks, it is respectfully submitted that an audio processing apparatus employing correcting filters for use in correcting the characteristics of a headphone, as taught by the present invention and as recited in the amended claims is neither shown nor suggested in the cited reference.

The references cited as of interest have been reviewed and are not seen to show or suggest the present invention as recited in the amended claims.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

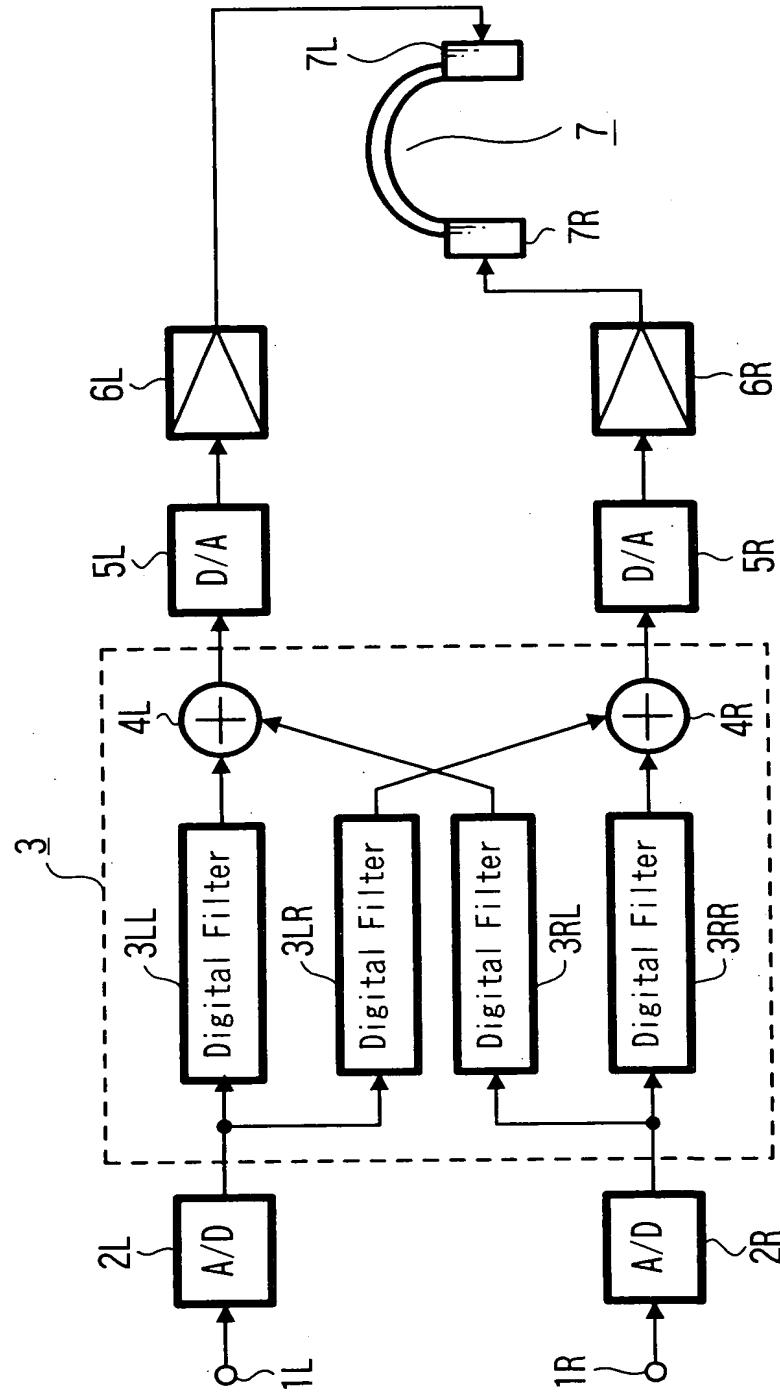
COOPER & DUNHAM LLP



Jay H. Maioli
Reg. No. 27, 213

JHM:gr

FIG. 8 (Price Art)



ANNOTATED SHEET SHOWING CHANGES

